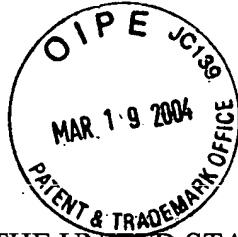


03500.014439.



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
: Examiner: K. L. Jerabek  
TSUKASA SAKO )  
: Group Art Unit: 2612  
Appln. No.: 09/552,590 )  
:   
Filed: April 19, 2000 )  
:   
For: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS )  
METHOD AND STORAGE MEDIUM )  
THEREFOR ) March 18, 2004

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Technology Center 2600

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 19, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows. Amendments to the specification begin on page 2, amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing beginning on page 11, comments regarding amendments to the figures begin on page 18, and the Remarks begin on page 21. An Appendix including both drawing replacement sheets and annotated drawing sheets showing the changes is attached following page 25.